

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-16 are present in the application. Claims 1-4, 11, and 14 are amended herein.

Applicant's representative requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss the applicant's position in regard to the current office action. Action on this response is respectfully requested to be deferred until such interview may be accomplished.

Claims 1, 11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US Published Patent Application 2002/0101367 (Grier). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US Published Patent Application 2002/0051263(Mase). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 2, 7, 8, 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Grier and Mase. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 3, 13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Grier in combination with Simard (US patent 6,940,826). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 4, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Grier in combination with

Fujiwara (US patent 5,729,517). Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Grier and Mase documents teach different systems than applicant's claims, in that they do not appreciate the concept of first stage decompression that is not completely decompression, then synthesis, and then further decompression.

Grier merely shows plural decompression modules, where the data is separated into plural portions that are decompressed by the plural decompression modules. There is no concept taught in Grier that the decompression is done in a first stage and then a second stage.

Similarly, Mase does not show applicant's claimed invention, but instead shows 2 decompression units where a first portion of the compressed data is decompressed by the first unit and a second portion is decompressed by the second unit. The document does not show first and second stages of decompression, with synthesis happening to the partially decompressed data between the first and second stages and further decompression happening in the second stage after synthesis.

With respect to claim 1, which is amended to clarify that the first decompression is a partial decompression and that the intermediate data from the first decompression is the data that is processed by the second decompression Grier and Mase (in

combination for dependent claims) do not teach or suggest such first and second stage decompression as in applicant's claims.

Similarly, claims 11 and 14 are amended to clarify that the data that the second decompression is performed on is the intermediate data from the first decompression.

With regard to claims 9 and 10 which are rejected as anticipated by Mase, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully submitted to be not sustainable. The Examiner states that Mase shows what is claimed, but it does not. Mase shows decompression and then synthesis of the decompressed data. Claims 9 and 10 relate to synthesis and then decompression of the synthesized data. Mase teaches something different, and does not operate in the manner that the Examiner is alleging. Accordingly, the claims cannot be anticipated by Mase. Further, Mase does not suggest the claims.

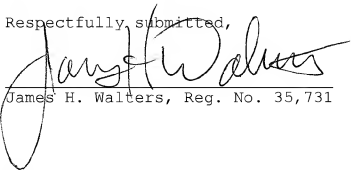
The other dependent claims that are rejected in combination with Grier and other documents should also be considered allowable in view of the amendments and comments noted above. The documents do not teach or suggest the claims.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked

to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

It is believed that no further fees are due with this filing or that the required fees are being submitted herewith. However, if additional fees are required to keep the application pending, please charge deposit account 503036. If fee refund is owed, please refund to deposit account 503036.

Respectfully submitted,



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